

### Remarks

Claims 7-8 are pending and rejected. Applicants respectfully request allowance of claims 7-8.

Claim 7 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over U.S. Patent 5,274,698 (Jang). In claim 7, the caller places a call to a called number (i.e. the dialed telephone number). The caller has a caller number (i.e. the caller's home telephone number). Claim 7 requires processing the called number to determine if the caller number should be checked in a validation table. Typically, caller number validation is used to stop calls from callers who do not pay their bills. In the prior art, the caller number is checked in a validation table to determine if a call should be allowed. Advantageously, the claimed invention can eliminate caller number validation on some calls to save time and resources during call set-up.

Jang teaches processing the called number to allow or deny calls. (Jang, column 4, lines 32-65; and column 7, line 17 to column 8, line 10). Jang does not refer to the caller number or to caller number validation. Thus, Jang cannot teach selective caller number validation based on the called number. Clearly, Jang does not teach processing the called number *to determine if the caller number should be validated in a validation table*.

The recent Office Action refers to "validation of the called number" (emphasis added). This is irrelevant because the claimed invention does not refer to called number validation. Instead, the claimed invention requires selective caller number validation based on processing the called number.

Claim 8 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Jang in view of U.S. Patent 5,592,477 (Farris). Claim 8 is dependent on claim 7 and allowable for the reasons given above.

Applicants submit that there are numerous additional reasons in support of patentability, but that such reasons are moot in light of the above remarks and are omitted in the interests of brevity. Applicants respectfully request allowance of claims 7-8.



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